

REMARKS

Claims 19-20, 23-31 and 33-36 remain in the application after amendment herein. In the most recent Office Action all of the claims were rejected under Section 103 based on Hawes (U.S. 6,061,715) alone or in combination with Alderson (U.S. 5,019,963). Applicants now submit amended claims to more clearly distinguish over the prior art. It is respectfully submitted that, although the most recent Office Action suggests otherwise, the Hawes reference does not at all relate to monitoring or controlling a manufacturing production process, or to a configuration wherein a server receives items of information from a programmable controller or from a diagnostic device in a manufacturing plant. See claim 19 (amended). Nor does the prior art relate to making available, on a server, data that is relevant to control of a manufacturing production process.

The Office Action suggests otherwise by referencing col. 6, lines 10-15 of Hawes, which discloses a printer 300 on a network. The Office Action also contends that because printers “can” be used in the paper industry for activities such as mass production of catalogs, the Hawes reference suggests monitoring of a manufacturing production process. Applicants must disagree because there is no reason to infer from the Hawes reference any of applicant’s teachings. It is only with hindsight knowledge of the present invention that the Examiner has crafted such an argument. On the other hand there must be a teaching or a suggestion in the reference in order to draw such an inference and this is totally lacking. Furthermore, the claims have now been amended to expressly require that the server is connected to receive items of information from a programmable controller or from a diagnostic device in a manufacturing plant ...” This is clearly different from monitoring the “ready” status of a printer on a network.

The claims also distinguish over the prior art for a second reason. The system of claim 19 includes

“a server ... configured to provide the items of information to the client for viewing all of the set of multiple items at one time on the client display ...
first mechanisms for defining an information unit for each of the multiple items in the set, assigning to each unit an identifier, managing the identifiers to identify the information units and assigning an update stamp to each identifier;

second mechanisms for assigning the new items of information ... to the identifiers and for each new item also assigning a new update stamp ... and

third mechanisms ... to replace an information unit having the same identifier and already used in the display based on whether a new update stamp has been assigned [Emphasis Added]."

The subject matter of independent claim 19 differs from the Hawes reference, among other reasons, because an identifier and an update stamp are assigned to each information unit and the display includes multiple information units and information units presented in the client display are updated based on whether a new time stamp has been assigned. Accordingly, a feature of the invention defined in claim 19 is that information simultaneously presentable in a display may be segmented into units that are individually updatable based on availability of new information associated with each unit. As a result, the invention enables partial replacement of data based on whether the data in a specific information unit has changed, while not requiring that all of the data used on a display screen be re-sent to the display.

The subject matter of claim 28 differs for reasons similar to those presented above with regard to claim 19. By way of example, claim 28 now requires

"displaying ... multiple items of information together in a screen view on a client display wherein the individual items of information are separately identifiable and provided in the form of information units ...

[wherein] ... information units corresponding to different items of information are separately assigned time stamps and are separately updatable;

providing identifiers to identify individual ones of the information units;

assigning each of the new items of information to one of the identifiers and assigning to each said new item a updated time stamp which indicates that said new item is an update relative to a previously received and displayed item of information assigned to the same identifier; and

determining by comparing values of an updated stamp with a previously assigned time stamp whether any of the items of information has been modified relative to a previously received item [Emphasis Added]."

Based on the above recitations, a feature of claim 28 is the ability determine whether individual items of information, among multiple items of information, have been modified so

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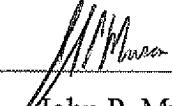
that the client can be sent updated information without sending information that has not been updated.

Conclusion

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d), or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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